

Varick (J.R.)

A CASE

OF

FEMORAL ANEURISM

SUCCESSFULLY TREATED BY

INTERMITTENT PRESSURE.

BY

THEODORE R. VARICK, M. D.,

SURGEON TO ST. FRANCIS'S AND JERSEY CITY CHARITY HOSPITALS,
JERSEY CITY, N. J.

[REPRINTED FROM THE NEW YORK MEDICAL JOURNAL, MARCH, 1878.]

NEW YORK:
D. APPLETON AND COMPANY,
549 & 551 BROADWAY.

1878.



A HISTORY OF ENGLAND

IN THE

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

By WILLIAM EDWARD HARTPOLE LECKY,

Author of "History of the Rise and Influence of the Spirit of Rationalism in Europe," "History of European Morals, from Augustus to Charlemagne," etc.

2 vols., 12mo. Cloth, \$5.00.

SOME TOPICS SELECTED FROM THE CONTENTS.

Whigs and Tories.
Godolphin and Marlborough.
Literature under Anne.
Sacheverell and the Clergy.
Oxford, Bolingbroke, Swift.
Nonconformists—Quakers.
Parliamentary Corruption and Tyranny.
Irish Penal Code.
Robert Walpole.
Drunkenness—Gambling.
Fleet Marriages.
Newspapers.
Architecture, Painting, Music, and the Drama
English Laborers.
North American Colonies.

Commercial Restrictions.
Slave-Trade.
Scotland: The Highlands, Scotch Religion, Progress.
Ireland: Resources, Country Life, Politics, Religion, Emigration.
Priest-Hunting, 1711–1730.
The Duke of Newcastle.
Pitt—Fox.
Conquest of Canada.
Conquest of Hindostan.
Religious Revival.
Observance of Sunday.
Wesley—Whitefield.
Religion in Wales.

Other writers, and among them notably Lord Stanhope, have published works covering, in great measure, the same period which Mr. Lecky has here chosen to treat of; but the plans, objects, and the classes of facts, on which the present history especially dwells, are so very different from all preceding histories as to constitute an entirely distinct production. Next to impartiality, nothing has so distinguished Mr. Lecky as his power of massing facts, and preserving their due relation and subordination. The strict order of chronology he in some cases departs from, for, as he observes, "the history of an institution, or a tendency, can only be written by collecting into a single focus facts that are spread over many years, and such matters may be more clearly treated according to the order of subjects than according to the order of time." This is, indeed, the philosophy of history; and, instead of giving a dry narrative of events year by year, it has been Mr. Lecky's object "to disengage from the great mass of facts those which relate to the permanent forces of the nation, or which indicate some of the more enduring features of national life, and to present the growth or decline of monarchy, the aristocracy, and the democracy, of the Church and of Dissent, of the agricultural, the manufacturing, and the commercial interests; the increasing power of Parliament and of the press; the history of political ideas, of art, of manners, and of belief; the changes that have taken place in the social and economical condition of the people; the influences that have modified national character; the relations of the mother-country to its dependencies, and the causes that have accelerated or retarded the advancement of the latter."

D. APPLETON & CO., 549 & 551 Broadway, N. Y.

A CASE
OF
FEMORAL ANEURISM

SUCCESSFULLY TREATED BY

INTERMITTENT PRESSURE.

BY

THEODORE R. VARICK, M. D.,

SURGEON TO ST. FRANCIS'S AND JERSEY CITY CHARITY HOSPITALS,
JERSEY CITY, N. J.



[REPRINTED FROM THE NEW YORK MEDICAL JOURNAL, MARCH, 1878.]

NEW YORK:
D. APPLETON AND COMPANY,
549 & 551 BROADWAY.
1878.

A CASE OF FEMORAL ANEURISM SUCCESSFULLY TREATED BY INTERMITTENT PRESSURE.

Mrs. D., widow, aged forty-nine, native of Ireland, first observed a pulsating tumor in the right groin about two and a half years ago. For a period of two years it remained nearly stationary, giving no serious inconvenience, and, except for its pulsation, she would not have noticed any deviation from health. About six months since, while walking in the street, she was conscious of a feeling of numbness extending down the limb, and observed an increase in the size of the tumor.

From this time it continued to enlarge until October 19, 1877, when she called at my office. On inspection, I discovered an aneurism of the common femoral artery, commencing immediately below and impinging upon Poupart's ligament, and extending three inches down the limb, including a portion of the superficial femoral, with a strong expansive pulsation and well-marked aneurismal bruit; the pulsation in the sac ceasing on compression above. The collapse of the sac, which occurred at this time, indicated a fluid condition of the blood, and an absence of all effort on the part of Nature to effect a cure by the deposition of laminated fibrin.

Having determined to resort to the treatment by pressure,

I accordingly, on the 25th, applied a conical-shaped canvas bag, containing 14 pounds of shot, to the femoral as it passes over the ramus of the pubis, which had the effect to completely control the current of blood and allow the sac to collapse. The shot-bag was suspended from the ceiling by a cord, into which was inserted a piece of elastic, the better to admit of its accommodating itself to the motion of the body. Owing to the pain produced by the pressure, and the extreme irritability of the patient, it was necessary to have an assistant constantly with her in order to keep the weight *in situ*. Notwithstanding the utmost care, owing to the impossibility of keeping the patient quiet, the pressure would at times become entirely displaced, allowing a return of the current through the sac. The object of the pressure was simply to diminish, and not absolutely to cut off, the flow, thereby favoring the processes of Nature in effecting a cure by the deposits of laminated fibrin; and although, for the reasons above stated, it was impossible to carry out this plan strictly in detail, yet a similar result was arrived at by the intermittent character of the compression. Occasionally the full force of the circulation coursing through the sac, now partially or completely arrested, allowed the fibrin to collect in the concavity of the sac, and at the same time to attach itself to any asperities that might exist, thereby forming nuclei for subsequent deposition. The time occupied by, and the manner of application of, compression, will be seen by reference to the subjoined table:

Date.	Pressure on.	Pressure off.	Hours.
October 25th.....	10.00 A. M.	10.00 P. M.	12.00
October 26th.....	9.20 A. M.	8.00 P. M.	10.40
October 28th.....	9.10 A. M.	8.10 P. M.	11.00
Total shot-bag pressure.....			33.40

The sac at this time becoming manifestly more solid, and losing its expansive pulsation, the point of pressure having become excoriated, and the sac hot and tender, all pressure was removed, and ice-bags applied until November 3d, when Ricord's bubo compressor was substituted for the shot-bag, and answered an excellent purpose, maintaining its position and controlling the circulation at will.

Date.	Pressure on.	Pressure off.	Hours.
November 3d.....	12.00 M.	2.45 P. M.	2.45
November 4th.....	9.40 A. M.	6.00 P. M.	8.20
			—
Total by Ricord's compressor.....			11.05
Total shot-bag pressure.....			33.40
			—
Grand total.....			44.45

At this time pulsation in the femoral below the sac ceased, not gradually, but abruptly, and the artery could be felt below the point of egress from the sac, pulseless and cord-like. The egress of blood being prevented in the main channel, and ultimate success being assured, all pressure was removed. The pulsation in the sac gradually diminished until the 14th, when it ceased entirely.

In addition to the details just cited, the patient was confined to an absolutely animal diet with a minimum allowance of liquids, perfect rest in bed, and bromide of potassium in sufficient doses at night to produce repose, morphine having been previously tried, but abandoned, as it occasioned nausea.

The patient, being a spare woman, with relaxed integument and feeble muscular development, was a particularly favorable subject for observing the course of the disease and the progress of cure. The aneurism, from its location, unless there existed an abnormal anatomical arterial distribution, must have given rise to five efferent branches, viz.: superficial epigastric, superficial circumflex ilii, two external pudic (superior and inferior), and the profunda femoris, which, taken in connection with the point of ingress and point of egress of the main trunk, made in all seven openings into the sac—a condition exceedingly unfavorable to successful treatment. Owing to the general physical condition of the patient alluded to, the tumor could be grasped nearly to its entire posterior aspect, and the branches arising therefrom distinctly felt, violently pulsating. The femoral below the sac having become embolized, as must have been the case, as indicated by the abrupt subsidence of pulsation, the sac below the origin of the profunda (for a distance of about one inch and a half) became reduced to the condition of a diverticulum, especially favorable for the deposition of laminated fibrin. From this

time solidification progressed with increasing rapidity, as one by one from below upward the efferent branches became obliterated and the cure completed. Another point to be observed is, that the shot-bag pressure was applied to the artery within one-quarter of an inch of the upper portion of the sac, while that by Ricord's bubo compressor, on account of the size of the pad, was, in addition, exerted upon the upper portion of the sac itself.

January 8, 1878.—I visited the patient to-day, and found the tumor reduced to the size of a hickory-nut, perfectly solid, and free from pulsation; the patient suffering no inconvenience except from a somewhat diminished temperature of the part, with occasional cramps of the muscles of the limb.

THE

LIFE AND WORDS OF CHRIST,

By CUNNINGHAM GEIKIE, D. D.

With Twelve Engravings on Steel. In Two Volumes. Price, \$8.00.

"A great and noble work, rich in information, eloquent and scholarly in style, earnestly devout in feeling."—*London Literary World*.

"The present book differs very considerably from Canon Farrar's work in scope, and in many important features Dr. Geikie approaches his task from the same standpoint, that of an unreserved believer in revelation, but he takes a larger and wider view of his subject, giving a very full account of the political history of the Jews at the period, besides a much more minute description of the social and religious life of the people. Indeed, the book is so exhaustive that we can scarcely think any scattered grains of information are left for gleaners who may wish to follow in the same path."—*John Bull*.

"The author has brought to his difficult and noble task the stores of an eloquent, well-informed, and devout mind. He has, in a very great degree, accomplished what he proposed, and brought before his readers the world in which Jesus moved; the country in which he lived; the people among whom he grew up and ministered; the religion in which he was trained; the Temple services in which he took part; the ecclesiastical, civil, and social aspects of his time; the parties of the day, their opinions and their spirit; the customs that ruled; the influences that prevailed; the events, social, religious, and political, not mentioned in the Gospels, that formed the history of his lifetime, so far as they can be recovered."—*London Standard*.

"It goes over the whole ground of the Life, beginning with the state of Palestine at the birth of Christ, discussing carefully every event and word, and ending with St. Luke's account of the Ascension."—*N. Y. World*.

"The author gives a full account of the political and social state of the Jews at the time of Christ: of their religious and domestic life, and of the customs, spirit, ecclesiastical system and parties of the time. In all of these things Dr. Geikie's work differs from Canon Farrar's, and fitly supplements it."—*N. Y. Evening Post*.

"Without disparaging in any sense the noble labors of his predecessors, we think Dr. Geikie has caught a *new ray* from the 'Mountain of Light,' and has added a new page to our Christology which many will delight to read. These volumes are full of exquisite word-painting, from which an artist might reproduce innumerable lifelike pictures."—*N. Y. Evangelist*.

"These fresh volumes are marked throughout by a humane and devout spirit, and the type of churchmanship which they represent and urge is positive, but not extreme. The work is sure to make for itself a place in popular literature."—*N. Y. Times*.

"The chief merit of Dr. Geikie's volumes lies in the attention paid to the surroundings of our Saviour's early life. The person and works of Christ receive the chief attention, of course; but the background is so faithfully and vividly drawn that the reader is given a fresher idea of the central figure."—*N. Y. Independent*.

"His style is always clear, rising sometimes into majestic beauty. His most steady point of view is the relations of Christ to the elevation of the race, and he struggles to make clear the amazing richness of Christ's new things—the profound character of his philosophy, and the practical humanity that wells up out of these great depths."—*N. Y. Methodist*.

D. APPLETON & CO., 549 & 551 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC SERIES.

NOW READY.

No. 1. **FORMS OF WATER**, in Clouds, Rain, Rivers, Ice, and Glaciers. By Prof. JOHN TYNDALL, LL. D., F. R. S. 1 vol. Cloth. Price, \$1.50.

" 2. **PHYSICS AND POLITICS**; or, Thoughts on the Application of the Principles of "Natural Selection" and "Inheritance" to Political Society. By WALTER BAGEHOT, Esq., author of "The English Constitution." 1 vol. Cloth. Price, \$1.50.

" 3. **FOODS**. By EDWARD SMITH, M. D., LL. B., F. R. S. 1 vol. Cloth. Price, \$1.75.

" 4. **MIND AND BODY**. The Theories of their Relations. By ALEX. BAIN, LL. D., Professor of Logic in the University of Aberdeen. 1 vol., 12mo. Cloth. Price, \$1.50.

" 5. **THE STUDY OF SOCIOLOGY**. By HERBERT SPENCER. 1 vol., 12mo. Cloth. Price, \$1.50.

" 6. **THE NEW CHEMISTRY**. By Prof. JOSIAH P. COOKE, Jr., of Harvard University. 1 vol., 12mo. Cloth. Price, \$2.00.

" 7. **THE CONSERVATION OF ENERGY**. By Prof. BALFOUR STEWART, LL. D., F. R. S. 1 vol., 12mo. Cloth. Price, \$1.50.

" 8. **ANIMAL LOCOMOTION**; or, Walking, Swimming, and Flying, with a Dissertation on Aéronautics. By J. BELL PITTIGREW, M. D., F. R. S. E., F. R. C. P. E. 1 vol., 12mo. Fully Illustrated. Price, \$1.75.

" 9. **RESPONSIBILITY IN MENTAL DISEASE**. By HENRY MAUDSLEY, M. D. 1 vol., 12mo. Cloth. Price, \$1.50.

" 10. **THE SCIENCE OF LAW**. By Prof. SHELDON AMOS. 1 vol., 12mo. Cloth. Price, \$1.75.

" 11. **ANIMAL MECHANISM**. A Treatise on Terrestrial and Aérial Locomotion. By E. J. MAREY. With 117 Illustrations. Price, \$1.75.

" 12. **THE HISTORY OF THE CONFLICT BETWEEN RELIGION AND SCIENCE**. By JOHN WM. DRAPER, M. D., LL. D., author of "The Intellectual Development of Europe." Price, \$1.75.

" 13. **THE DOCTRINE OF DESCENT, AND DARWINISM**. By Prof. OSCAR SCHMIDT, Strasburg University. Price, \$1.50.

" 14. **THE CHEMISTRY OF LIGHT AND PHOTOGRAPHY**. In its Application to Art, Science, and Industry. By Dr. HERMANN VOIGT. 100 Illustrations. Price, \$2.00.

" 15. **FUNCTIONS**; their Nature, Influence, and Uses. By M. C. COOKE, M. A., LL. D. Edited by REV. M. J. BERKELEY, M. A., F. L. S. With 109 Illustrations. Price, \$1.50.

" 16. **THE LIFE AND GROWTH OF LANGUAGE**. By Prof. W. D. WHITNEY, of Yale College. Price, \$1.50.

" 17. **MONEY AND THE MECHANISM OF EXCHANGE**. By W. STANLEY JEVONS, M. A., F. R. S., Professor of Logic and Political Economy in the Owens College, Manchester. Price, \$1.75.

" 18. **THE NATURE OF LIGHT**, with a General Account of Physical Optics. By Dr. EUERGENE LOMMEL, Professor of Physics in the University of Erlangen. With 188 Illustrations and a Plate of Spectra in Chromolithography. Price, \$2.00.

" 19. **ANIMAL PARASITES AND MESSMATES**. By Monsieur VAN BENEDEN, Professor of the University of Louvain, Correspondent of the Institute of France. With 83 Illustrations. Price, \$1.50.

" 20. **ON FERMENTATIONS**. By P. SCHÜTZENBERGER, Director at the Chemical Laboratory at the Sorbonne. With 29 Illustrations. Price, \$1.50.

" 21. **THE FIVE SENSES OF MAN**. By JULIUS BERNSTEIN, O. Ö. Professor of Physiology in the University of Halle. With 91 Illustrations. Price, \$1.75.

" 22. **THE THEORY OF SOUND IN ITS RELATION TO MUSIC**. By Prof. PIETRO BLASERNA, of the Royal University of Rome. With numerous Woodcuts. 1 vol., 12mo. Cloth. Price, \$1.50.

PROSPECTUS.

D. APPLETON & CO. have the pleasure of announcing that they have made arrangements for publishing, and have recently commenced the issue of, a SERIES OF POPULAR MONOGRAPHS, of small works, under the above title, which will embody the results of recent inquiry in the most interesting departments of advancing science.

The character and scope of this series will be best indicated by a reference to the names and subjects included in the subjjoined list, from which it will be seen that the cooperation of the most distinguished professors in England, Germany, France, and the United States, has been secured, and negotiations are pending for contributions from other eminent scientific writers.

The works will be issued simultaneously in New York, London, Paris, Leipsic, Milan, and St. Petersburg.

The INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC SERIES is entirely an American project, and was originated and organized by Dr. E. L. Youmans, who spent the greater part of a year in Europe, arranging with authors and publishers. The forthcoming volumes are as follows:

Prof. W. KINGDON CLIFFORD, M. A., *The First Principles of the Exact Sciences explained to the Non-Mathematical.*
Prof. T. H. HUXLEY, LL. D., F. R. S., *Bodily Motion and Consciousness.*
Dr. W. B. CARPENTER, LL. D., F. R. S., *The Physical Geography of the Sea.*
Prof. WM. ODLING, F. R. S., *The Old Chemistry viewed from the New Stand-point.*
W. LAUDER LINDSAY, M. D., F. R. S. E., *Mind in the Lower Animals.*
Sir JOHN LUBBOCK, Bart., F. R. S., *On Ants and Bees.*
Prof. W. T. TRISTRAM DYER, B. A., B. Sc., *Form and Habit in Flowering Plants.*
Mr. J. N. LOFTUS, F. R. S., *Spectrum Analysis.*
Prof. MICHAEL FOSTER, M. D., *Protoplasm and the Cell Theory.*
H. CHARLTON BASTIAN, M. D., F. R. S., *The Brain as an Organ of Mind.*
Prof. A. C. RAMSAY, LL. D., F. R. S., *Earth Sculpture; Hills, Valleys, Mountains, Plains, Rivers, Lakes; how they were produced, and how they have been destroyed.*
Prof. RUDOLPH VIECHOW (Berlin University), *Morbid Physiological Action.*
Prof. CLAUDE BERNARD, *History of the Theories of Life.*
Prof. H. SAINT-CLARE DEVILLE, *An Introduction to General Chemistry.*
Prof. WURTZ, *Atoms and the Atomic Theory.*
Prof. DE QUATREFAGES, *The Human Race.*
Prof. LACAZE-DUTHIERS, *Zoology since Cuvier.*
Prof. BERTHELOT, *Chemical Synthesis.*
Prof. C. A. YOUNG, Ph. D. (of Dartmouth College), *The Sun.*
Prof. ODEON N. HOOP (Columbia College, New York), *Modern Chromatics and its Relations to Art and Industry.*

Dr. EUGENE LOMMEL (University of Erlangen), *The Nature of Light.*
Prof. J. ROENTHAL, *General Physiology of Muscles and Nerves.*
Prof. JAMES D. DANA, M. A., LL. D., *On Cephalization; or, Head-Characters in the Gradation and Progress of Life.*
Prof. S. W. JOHNSON, M. A., *On the Nutrition of Plants.*
Prof. AUSTIN FLINT, Jr., M. D., *The Nervous System, and its Relation to the Bodily Functions.*
Prof. BERNSTEIN (University of Halle), *The Five Senses of Man.*
Prof. FERDINAND COHN (Breslau University), *Thallophytes (Algae, Lichens, Fungi).*
Prof. HERMANN (University of Zurich), *On Respiration.*
Prof. LIEBERKÜHN (University of Leipzig), *Outline of Animal Organization.*
Prof. LIEBERKÜHN (University of Berlin), *Outlines of Toxicology.*
Prof. KUNDT (University of Strasburg), *On Sound.*
Prof. BRES (University of Erlangen), *On Parasitic Plants.*
Prof. STEINTHAL (University of Berlin), *Outline of the Science of Languages.*
P. BERT (Professor of Physiology, Paris), *Forms of Life and other Curious Conditions.*
E. ALGLAIRE (Professor of Constitutional and Administrative Law at Douai, and of Political Economy at Lille), *The Primitive Elements of Political Constitutions.*
P. LORAIN (Professor of Medicine, Paris), *Modern Epidemics.*
Prof. SCHÜTZENBERGER (Director of the Chemical Laboratory at the Sorbonne), *On Fermentations.*
Mons. FREIDEL, *The Functions of Organs.* Chemistry.
Mons. DEBRAY, *Precious Metals.*
Prof. CORFIELD, M. A., M. D. (Oxon.), *Air in its Relation to Health.*
Prof. A. GIARD, *General Embryology.*

D. APPLETON & CO., Publishers, 549 & 551 Broadway, N. Y.